

**WAR!**

**With Mexico and Nicaragua**

**Desired, Demanded and Promoted by the**

**Knights of Columbus**

**AND THE**

**Roman Catholic Church**

**Declares Senator Heflin**



**Alabaman's Speeches and Exhibits Placed in  
Congressional Record to Prove His Conten-  
tions Quoted Herein Direct From  
Congressional Record**

**8th Edition**

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**IN A STARTLING SERIES OF EXPOSURES**

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# Introductory to Heflin Booklet

No more sensational or spectacular thing has ever occurred in congress than on the 14th day of January 1927 when Senator Heflin launched into the much agitated Nicaraguan and Mexican situation openly charging the Knights of Columbus and the Roman Catholic Church of plotting to drive this country into war, and raising and expending a million dollars for that specific purpose.

For days the situation had been growing tense. The people had besieged congress with letters so alarmed were they over the policies pursued by Secretary Kellogg and the big stick method employed as the president ordered marines to Nicaragua.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations had called Mr. Kellogg to appear before it and clarify the situation. He appeared, but he insisted that newspaper men, the public and even the committee's own stenographer be excluded. The report was taken by his own stenographer.

Without revealing what the secretary had said or reported Chairman Borah, next day (January 13th) assailed the administration policy of dealing with Nicaragua and Mexico, and advised a campaign of peace and application of the principle of arbitration. He cited the constitution of Nicaragua and recounted current events to support his contention the United States should have recognized Sacasa as President rather than Diaz and charged we had violated the five power pact entered into to insure peace in Latin America. Back of it all was the sinister fact, related in the press, that our battleships were attempting to prevent the landing of arms and ammunition being shipped to Sacasa from Mexico. The situation was fraught with danger, the public at large was alarmed. The Knights of Columbus were flooding the country with literature hostile to Mexico and conducting a nation-wide lecture campaign to the same end, while the president and secretary of state made war-like moves in the desired directions pleading the protection of American citizens and property

rights. Midst such a crisis Senator Heflin determined to expose the hypocrisy of the whole thing. As a preface to Senator Heflin's remarks we shall quote Senator Dill's statement on the Nicaragua-Mexican situation just previous to Senator Heflin taking the floor.

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### **Situation in Nicaragua and Mexico**

Remarks by Senator Dill of Washington, quoted from pages 1636 and 1637 of the Congressional Record, January 14th. (Sixty Ninth Congress, Second session.)

Mr. DILL Mr. President, the discussion that has taken place during the last few days regarding the troubles in Central America and Mexico has had the effect of awakening fears on the part of many of the American people that we are in danger of beginning war with Mexico. There are some who even think that there is danger of war with Nicaragua. This is due to the newspaper reports of the contest that is on regarding our policy in Central America and Mexico. This fear can have no foundation in fact unless it be the purpose of this Government to play the part of an overruling power in those countries.

I recognize, however, that if we should break relations with Mexico, and trouble should ensue over her land laws—a dispute which she offers to arbitrate—it might lead to most serious results. The different States of the Pacific coast have enacted land laws to control the ownership of land in those States. Japan has protested in the past against such legislation. We never have been willing to arbitrate that question, because we believed it is a matter involving our sovereignty. When we protest against the land laws of Mexico, the President of Mexico tells us that he is willing to submit the matter to arbitration. That offer is unanswerable, unless it be the purpose of this country to play the part of a big bully rather than a big brother.

As to our treatment of Nicaragua, if our purpose be merely to protect our own citizens and their property, and our marines are there, the proposition made yesterday on this floor suggests the only proper and decent course to follow, because we can not defend a position in Nicaragua that proposes to compel the Nicaraguan people to have the kind of a government we want them to have. We can only defend our position there on the ground that we want to pro-

tect our own citizens and their property, and at the same time permit the Nicaraguan people to have a Government according to the will of the majority.

Mr. President, it is ridiculous to talk about the countries of Central and South America or of the Government of Mexico opposing or defying the will of the United States. This Nicaraguan question becomes a question of big importance because it is tied up with the Mexican situation.

### **The Heflin Bombshell**

Remarks by Senator Thomas J. Heflin, of Alabama, in the United States senate, January 14th, 1927 quoted from pages 1637 and 1638 of the Congressional record for that day.

### **THE MEXICAN SITUATION**

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, the Senator from Idaho (MR. BORAH) yesterday told us about some of the influences at work to involve us in war with Mexico. War, as I said a few days ago, is a very solemn and gruesome thing, and this Government ought to use every precaution possible to prevent war. Ours is the only Nation in all the earth whose highest judicial authority has declared it to be a Christian Nation. Therefore this Government, above all others, should use its great influence to promote peace and prevent war.

This Government owes it to itself and to the people who love, support, and sustain it, to exhaust every means at its command to prevent war before it employs military force against any country.

Mr. President, I recall that in 1916 there were certain influences in this country—and I am going to talk very plainly, because I think the people are entitled to know the truth—there were certain religious influences that sought to drive President Wilson into war with Mexico. He was a candidate for reelection. Just a few days before the election, when his election seemed certain by an overwhelming vote, I am told that he was approached by certain Catholics and urged to go to war with Mexico. The President, it is said, stated that he wanted to look into the matter and find out just what the facts were, and so forth. But he was pressed for an immediate answer. The election was only a few days off, and the representatives of the Catholic Church were taking advantage of that situation and were seeking to influence the President at that particular time



to pledge himself to adopt their program for war with Mexico. But, thank God, President Wilson, an upstanding, full-grown American, refused to comply with their request. But what happened to him? The political situation commenced to change immediately in a number of States. Certain Wilson supporters went over to Hughes. But Wilson stood firm and was reelected. The election was exceedingly close and some claim that if the war propagandists had had 10 more days they would have defeated Wilson in 1916.

Mr. President, I mention this matter because I see signs now of those same influences at work on President Coolidge, bringing tremendous pressure to bear upon him in favor of war with Mexico. I am now going to bring to the attention of the Senate and the country a very important piece of information that seems to have been forgotten by some. On August 5, 1926, the Knights of Columbus, in annual supreme convention, meeting at Philadelphia, among other things done there on that occasion, the New York Times tells us, raised \$1,000,000 to help carry on a propaganda to bring about war with Mexico.

Recently we have heard in the Senate talk about how the Bolsheviks have gotten control of Mexico and about how the communists are carrying on in Mexico. Let me cite you to where that argument was first suggested and where that propaganda was first set in motion in the United States. In the convention of the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia, August 5, 1926, they said in a resolution passed on that occasion:

We warn our fellow American citizens that they can not endure at their very doorstep with impunity the Russianizing of Mexico. The soviet philosophy controls the military powers of Mexico—

And so forth.

Mr. President, even if that were true, would this country be justified in taking its Army and going into another country to regulate by force its internal affairs and to compel a foreign government to permit us to lay down rules and regulations for the conduct of its own internal affairs?

I want the country to know that this effort to draw us into war with Mexico was commenced in August 1926. I gave out a statement to the press at that time calling upon the President to stand firm against the advocates of war from whatever source. I stated at that time that the President of Mexico, if I understand the situation, is try-

ing to do in Mexico what we have done in the United States—bring about complete separation of church and State.

I said the people of the United States have no quarrel with the President of Mexico. I said then there is no reason why we should go to war with Mexico, and I say the same thing now. Let me read to the Senate one or two more excerpts from statements contained in the resolution passed by the convention of the Knights of Columbus:

We call upon the President and the State Department to put an end to this ignominious contempt which has been shown by Calles for American appeals—

And so forth.

Listen to this, Mr. President. Here comes a demand in that same resolution to go to war:

The period of watchful waiting or any other such procedure is over. We as American citizens demand of our Government that this action shall be taken forthwith.

Is not that a remarkable statement?

Mr. President, that was indeed a strange and significant resolution, and a million dollars were raised in that convention to carry on propaganda for American intervention in Mexico, followed by a specific demand upon the President of the United States to go to war with Mexico. Hardly six months have passed since this resolution was adopted. Strange as it may seem, the basis for some of the arguments which have been made here in favor of war are found in this resolution.

I wonder if some of our American citizens are becoming so enthusiastic over certain ideas and doctrines that they would forget the Government and people of the United States and plunge our country into war with Mexico? We get that impression from this statement. It boldly declares in favor of war. It tells the President and the American people that the time for watchful waiting is over and we must hear the beat of the drum and the tread of the Army on the way to Mexico.

I am not denying to the Knights of Columbus the right of petition. As citizens of the United States, they have as much right to petition the Government as any other citizens. The right of petition is an American right. But, Mr. President, I am opposed to allowing any religious denomination to drive my country into war. I repeat, the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic institution, may petition the President if they so desire.

I am not complaining of that, but I am complaining about them raising a million dollars to carry on propaganda to plunge the United States Government into war. I am complaining at the language they used. They pointedly tell the President and the country that "the time for watchful waiting is over." I am hoping and praying to God that the President will not be moved by this appeal or frightened by the implied threat.

Mr. President, just a few days ago the Baltimore Sun, I believe it was, carried an article about a Fascist organization being formed throughout the United States and that tens of thousands of Italians were going into it and pledging themselves to be loyal to Mussolini and Italy. Is not that interesting—citizens of our Government listening to the call of Mussolini, the most dangerous single power in all the Old World to-day? Why, not long ago he addressed the troops of Italy, the cavalry, and said, "Mount your horses and lift your bayonets, so that the world can see a perfect forest of glistening steel." That was one of the expressions used. When they are forming Fascist societies in the United States and pledging allegiance to Italy it is high time that some red-blooded Americans were taking stock and finding out whether these people are holding allegiance to powers above and beyond the Government and the Constitution of the United States.

I know that in saying these things I am incurring the displeasure of some people, and I know they are going to pursue me, because they have already commenced the attack. I have letters, one of them telling me that there is a chain of Catholic newspapers in the United States which are after me, that they have been tipped off to "go after Heflin," that I have incurred their displeasure by announcing against Al Smith for President, and that when I criticized Doheny, the richest member of that denomination in the United States, they had decided to open up their press batteries on me. Well, Mr. President, that is one of the prices that a public man has to pay if he has any self-respect and any courage and any regard for the welfare of his country. When I came into this Chamber as Senator I took an oath that I would support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic. If a man is a crook and is a Catholic, I will denounce him. If he is a crook and a Protestant, I will denounce him. I would not permit any religious obligation or influence to lead or drive me from the



discharge of my duty to my country. I do not want to see any American citizen put his obligation to any power above his obligation to his country. I will print these letters in the Record to let the people know just what is going on and how dangerous it is for a man to dare to assail and oppose the program of those who are bent on making Al Smith President and plunging this Government into war with Mexico. I do not fear their attacks. They do not frighten me. All I want is to know that I am right, and I am willing to take my stand by that position and live or die by it.

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From this point Senator La Follette took up the discussion dealing with the propaganda Secretary Kellogg handed the press about the Russian Bolshevistic influence in Mexico, by his exposure showing the fallacy and silliness of the weighty importance with which the state department tried to vest it. Even the secular press which assailed Heflin so bitterly was entirely out of sympathy with the State Department's efforts to work up a Bolshevie scare.

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### **Senatorial Backfire**

The following day, January 15th, Senator Walsh of Montana, Roman Catholic, referring to Senator Heflin's remarks of the previous day rose to what must be interpreted as a defense of his church saying:

(As found in the Congressional Record, January 15th, page 1694.)

### **The Mexican Situation**

Mr. Walsh of Montana. Mr. President, the Senator from Alabama (Mr. Heflin) on yesterday expressed most commendable concern regarding the state of our relations with the Republic of Mexico. I myself have not shared in the apprehension which has prevailed concerning any serious trouble culminating in armed conflict with our neighbor on the south, and I sincerely trust the present differences may in some amicable way be adjusted.

Perhaps, without making the direct assertion, it might easily be inferred from the remarks of the Senator from Alabama that he desired to convey the impression that the



Catholic Church was engaged in an effort to foment a war with Mexico. The same intimation has come to me from other sources. I feel very confident, indeed, that the Senator has listened to information of an altogether unreliable character and has indulged in an entirely unwarranted inference from the facts at his command. For instance, in the course of his address he said:

On August 5, 1926, the Knights of Columbus, in annual supreme convention, meeting at Philadelphia, among other things done there on that occasion, the New York Times tell us, raised \$1,000,000 to help carry on a propaganda to bring about war with Mexico.

I have sent for the copy of the New York Times containing the declaration referred to, and I ask that it may be incorporated in the Record. It concludes as follows:

Therefore, as a pledge of our concern for our fellow Knights of Columbus of Mexico, and of our determination to pursue relentlessly our campaign for the eradication of these evils at our own doorsteps, fomented and approved by the official action of our State Department, we hereby authorize our supreme board of directors to assess our membership to the extent of \$1,000,000 for a campaign of education, to the end that the politics of Soviet Russia shall be eliminated from the philosophy of American life and the ideals of liberty of conscience and democratic freedom may extend to our afflicted fellow human beings beyond the Rio Grande.

To this end we pledge the support and cooperation of 800,000 men who love God, who respect lawful authority, and who, in the discharge of their duty, fear not the force of evil, either on earth or from hell.

The Vice President. Without objection, the declaration will be printed in the Record.

The declaration referred to is as follows:

Text Of The Knights Of Columbus Declaration

"The Knights of Columbus in annual supreme convention assembled, mindful of the historic soil of Philadelphia upon which we are privileged to stand, where 150 years ago were enunciated the principles so dear to the hearts of the American people of the philosophy of our Government, recognizing there were certain inalienable rights with which mankind was endowed by his Creator, namely, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and having viewed with deliberation and care the present political situation in the neighboring Government of Mexico, hereby solemnly aver that we would be neglectful of our duty if we did not register an unqualified protest against the policy of President Calles upon his recent despotic use of the armed forces of his military regime in oppressing the vast majority of the people of Mexico, who are struggling for the right to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience.

"We call the attention of the American Government to remind

it that the representatives of Calles have insulted and degraded and expelled American citizens, men and women, under circumstances that are abhorrent to our conception of constitutional government. The fundamental rights guaranteed by our Constitution so dear to the hearts of Americans are unknown to the despotic power that is dominating Mexico, or to a so-called constitution that was forced upon the Mexican people at the point of the gun.

"We warn our fellow American citizens that they can not endure at their very doorstep, with impunity, the Russianizing of Mexico. The soviet philosophy controls the military powers of Mexico. The family to them is a myth and marriage a degradation. They have robbed it of its sanctity. Their conception of God is contempt for all religions.

"Ministers of all religions are denied the right to exercise their sacred functions; professions and vocations are prohibited; the right to take sacred vows for the service of God is denied; freedom of conscience is illegal; freedom of the press, freedom of petition, freedom of speech and lawful assemblage to present grievances of the people are denied and forbidden; freedom of education is repudiated and abolished; individual liberty is impossible; intolerance is deified; confiscation and spoliation of property are justified; constitutional liberty and orderly government are unknown; liberty, justice, and right have been assassinated by the red rulers of Mexico; communism in principle, precept, and practice is made the order of the day.

"While on the other hand, as enunciated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is the ideal and practice; justice is established; domestic peace and tranquillity are assured; promotion of the general welfare is encouraged and safeguarded; the blessings of liberty are maintained and freedom of conscience, right of petition, free speech, free press are guaranteed.

"And all this system in Mexico has been created under American auspices, sustained by American executive authority, which, in the first place, while refusing to recognize Lenin and Trotsky, have by Executive order of recognition, accepted Calles and Obregon, who are the enthusiastic supporters of the Bolshevist concept of government.

"We further point to the significance of the patronage bestowed upon these military despots by the continuance of such recognition, and particularly, by the discriminating favoritism shown to Calles by the continuance of the embargo, which makes the Calles ascendancy possible.

"We call upon the President and the State Department to put an end to this ignominious contempt which has been shown by Calles for Americans' appeal and to resolutely demand protection for American citizens and that they be treated with the same consideration and respect which is shown to Mexican citizens in this country.

"On occasions less acute than this, and where the circumstances were more remote from American contacts and far removed from our borders, geographically and otherwise, the American Government has expressed its sympathy for the struggle of oppressed people to realize their ideal of liberty, and the stories of Cuba, Ireland, Kishinev, and Hungary, and other similar historical incidents, testify to the warm

sympathy of the American people with the downtrodden and oppressed of any nation to throw off the yoke of despotism.

"The period of 'watchful waiting' or any other such procedure is over. We, as American citizens, demand of our Government that this action be taken forthwith. Although our Government has for years emphatically refused to recognize the Soviet regime of Russia, it has continued to countenance, aid, and comfort the Bolshevist forces of Carranza, Obregon, and Calles. .

"We particularly call upon the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated organizations to heed this appeal to cooperate with us to safeguard not only American rights, but the hard-won victories of labor itself to protect it from servile submission to destructive powers of a militaristic and communistic form of government.

"Labor in this country is free and devoid of military coercion, and should ever remain so, and the situation for a free people desiring to work out their salvation as a labor organization is impossible under the present system in Mexico.

"As to the Knights of Columbus in Mexico, we extend to our brethren our sincere sympathy and fraternal concern. We bid them not to be downcast or dismayed. The ideals of our order, in its duty to all lawful authority that is not essentially immoral, are well known, and the records of our accomplishments are written in the archives of the War and Navy Department and in the brave sons and younger brothers of our members who went across the sea 'to make the world safe for democracy.'

"Therefore, as a pledge of our concern for our fellow Knights of Columbus of Mexico and of our determination to pursue relentlessly our campaign for the eradication of these evils at our own doorsteps, fomented and approved by the official action of our State Department, we hereby authorize our supreme board of directors to assess our membership to the extent of \$1,000,000 for a campaign of education, to the end that the politics of soviet Russia shall be eliminated from the philosophy of American life and the ideals of liberty of conscience and democratic freedom may extend to our afflicted fellow human beings beyond the Rio Grande.

"To this end we pledge the support and cooperation of 800,000 men who love God, who respect lawful authority and who, in the discharge of their duty, fear not the force of evil, either on earth or from hell."

Mr. Walsh of Montana. On the 12th day of last December the bishops of the church referred to in the United States addressed the laity a pastoral in which they set forth their position with respect to the troubles with Mexico, and included therein a paragraph in relation to the charge of intervention by armed forces. I ask that the pastoral letter be printed in the Record and that the paragraph to which I have referred be read by the Secretary from the desk.

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The Pastoral Letter of the Bishops is a document of 28 pages 7½x10 and it is too lengthy to be repeated here. A letter to the Supreme Council, Knights of Clumbus,



New Haven Connecticut will bring a copy to you if they do not desire to suppress it. At page 1703 of the Congressional Record Mr. Walsh again speaks;

Mr. Walsh of Montana. Mr. President, the head of the Knights of Columbus, Mr. James A. Flaherty, issued a statement, which was carried in the newspapers this morning, adverting to the remarks of the Senator, of which I have made mention. I ask that Mr. Flaherty's statement may be incorporated in the Record.

The Vice President. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Statement of James A. Flaherty, Supreme Knight of Knights of Columbus, on Senator Heflin's Charges

The accusation that the Knights of Columbus in their 1926 convention pledged themselves to propaganda to force the United States into war with Mexico is utterly unfounded and unjust.

We have heretofore paid slight attention to incredible nonsense of this sort, for it has come only from professional disturbers who have devoted themselves anywhere and always, regardless of justice or truth, to attacking the Knights of Columbus. But when these accusations are made by men who have voice in the affairs of the Nation, the time for the kindness of silence is past. We will not stand by quietly and be slandered.

The Knights of Columbus have not urged war with Mexico and do not want war with Mexico. Our resolution, adopted at our supreme convention in 1926, clearly declares the object of our work. I quote from it, as it stands in our official records and as it was given to the public press the day of its adoption: "We hereby authorize our supreme board of directors to assess our membership to the extent of \$1,000,000 for a campaign of education, to the end that the politics of Soviet Russia shall be eliminated from the philosophy of American life, and the ideals of liberty of conscience and democratic freedom may extend to our afflicted fellow human beings beyond the Rio Grande."

The Knights of Columbus do not plead for United States help for the Catholic Church in Mexico. The Knights of Columbus know that the attack on the Catholic Church in Mexico is an attack on religion and religious freedom. They know that the present rulers of Mexico, apostles of Bolshevism, are seeking not merely to destroy the Catholic Church, but to destroy all religion and to establish communism in Mexico and in the western world.

The Knights of Columbus hence recognize Mexico as a grave problem. They have tried to bring this grave problem more immediately to the attention of the people of the United States. They have not presumed at any time to propose a solution of the problem. They trust in the ability of the Government of the United States to find that.

The Knights of Columbus have protested against the persecution in Mexico, not in the name of the Catholic Church but in the name of humanity and liberty. They have raised their voice against this persecution even as they would raise their voice against any similar



persecution wherever it might be and against whomever it might be. They have repeatedly stated their stand. If protesting against injustice and military barbarism is not the privilege of American citizens, whose privilege is it? And if this protesting is "propaganda," then let our critics make the most of it.

The Knights of Columbus have repeatedly declared that they do not seek intervention in Mexico. I quote from *Columbia*, their official organ, of October, 1926:

"The Knights of Columbus do not ask the Government of the United States to intervene in behalf of the Catholic Church in Mexico. They know that the church in Mexico will survive and endure unimpaired the experience it is undergoing, if and so long as Mexican Catholics reveal the moral fiber of resistance. The Knights of Columbus asked merely—and asked with full right—that the Government cease from all forms of intervention in Mexico in behalf of the Mexican enemies of religion, political freedom, private property, and, ultimately, of the United States.

The issue is not the Catholic Church. The issue is religious and political freedom. Those who are against such freedom will approve of the present Government of Mexico. Those who believe in such freedom will do their share, honorably and openly, as we have tried to do, to guard it and to make its preciousness realized and the perils to it known.

The Knights of Columbus say of their work, as said the Catholic bishops of the United States of their pastoral, that it is aimed in no way "to reach those who possess political power anywhere on earth, and least of all in our own country, to the end that they should intervene with armed force in the internal affairs of Mexico for the protection of the church. Our duty is done when, by telling the story, defending the truth, and emphasizing the principles, we sound a warning to Christian civilization that its foundations are again being attacked and undermined."

Mr. Walsh of Montana. Mr. President, not only have the Catholic bishops of the United States expressed themselves in the manner indicated in the pastoral letter but the Catholic bishops of Mexico have declared themselves upon the same subject. The Associated Press of August 11 carried a report of resolutions adopted by them, a copy of which unfortunately I have not at my command at the present time; but in that the Catholic bishops of Mexico stated that in the event of an attack upon Mexico by a foreign power they would take the lead in the patriotic defense of their country. Accordingly, Mr. President, if war with Mexico should ensue—and I regard the thing as practically chimerical; God forbid that it should—the responsibility of the thing must be laid at the doors of some one other than the Catholic Church of the United States.

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At this point in the proceedings the effort to choke Heflin off and discredit him really begins. We quote

again from the Record beginning at page 1703 near the bottom.

Mr. Gillett obtained the floor.

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President—

The Vice President. Does the Senator from Massachusetts yield to the Senator from Alabama?

Mr. Gillett. For what purpose?

Mr. Heflin. How long is the Senator going to speak?

Mr. Gillett. I do not think I shall take long.

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I shall have to rise to a question of personal privilege, then, at this time.

The Vice President. The Senator will state it.

Mr. Heflin. The Senator from Montana has submitted for publication in the Congressional Record an attack upon me by the head of the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus. This man Flaherty, from Connecticut, chief official of the Knights of Columbus in the United States, said in his statement, read at the clerk's desk, that my position on public questions was taken without regard to the justice of the proposition or the truth involved. The author of that statement is a cowardly and brazen falsifier. His statement is an unqualified falsehood and he knew that it was a falsehood when he made it.

My speech on yesterday was based on the resolution passed by the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia in August, 1926. The resolution speaks for itself. I quoted from it yesterday and will quote from it again to-day.

I have before me a copy of the New York Times of August 6, 1926, and the date line giving a report to the New York Times as to what happened at Philadelphia is August 5. In large letters in the headline the New York Times said that the Knights of Columbus raised a million dollars "to press the issue." Now, what was the issue? They were discussing the Mexican situation. The resolution was about the Mexican situation. The resolution complained about the attitude of the United States Government toward Mexico. The resolution demanded intervention. Let me read from the resolution itself:

The period of watchful waiting or any other such procedure is over. We, as American citizens, demand of our Government that this action be taken forthwith.

The Senator from Montana (Mr. Walsh) did not read that. This is not a request made to the President to make a thorough investigation of conditions in Mexico, but it is a straight out demand upon the President of the United

States by the Knights of Columbus to abandon the course which has kept peace between the United States and Mexico, and proceed at once to use force against the Mexican Government. That meant war, and every honest person in the country knows it.

Mr. President, here is another remarkable statement in the resolution of the Knights of Columbus:

Therefore as a pledge of our concern for our fellow Knights of Columbus of Mexico, and of our determination to pursue relentlessly our campaign for the eradication of these evils at our own doorsteps—

Referring to Mexico, of course—listen to this, Senators—

fomented and approved by the official action of our State Department, we hereby authorize our supreme court of directors to assess our members to the extent of a million dollars—

Mr. Gillett. Mr. President, I rise to a point of order.

The Vice President. The Senator from Massachusetts will state his point of order.

Mr. Gillett. I do not mean to be at all discourteous, but it does not seem to me that the Senator is discussing a point of order. I should like to ask him how long he is going to occupy the floor.

Mr. Heflin. Not over 5 or 10 minutes. I am discussing a question of privilege. The Senator is mistaken; I am not discussing a point of order. I am discussing a question of the highest privilege too. Plunging this country into war with a foreign country is a matter of the highest concern.

Here is a part of the resolution where the Knights of Columbus are pledging the aid of 800,000 knights to aid their brother Knights of Columbus in Mexico. They are raising a million dollars to carry on war propaganda here, and they are bitterly arraigning the Government of the United States for its refusal to do the bidding of the Knights of Columbus to go to war with Mexico. Is not that what the resolution means? If not, what do they mean by this language in the Knights of Columbus resolution:

The period of watchful waiting or any other such procedure is over. We, as American citizens, demand of our Government that this action be taken forthwith.

Mr. President, it is not pleasant to have to go into these things and lay bare such reprehensible and un-American doings as this resolution discloses, but somebody has got to do it if the country is to know the truth. I do not care whether it is a Protestant organization or a Catholic organization; I do not intend to sit silent and permit



any interests to plunge my country into war without entering my protest and giving the truth as I see it to the people of the United States. When I am doing that I am doing what every Protestant and Catholic should approve.

I saw in the Post yesterday morning the earmarks of approaching war, an inspired article from Mexico telling of the atrocious things being done over there. This is propaganda sent out to inflame the American mind. They had the statement, in big headlines, that the tongues of five little boys were cut out. I do not believe a word of it. They are getting up and getting out war propaganda just as sure as I stand here to-day. I shall not be surprised to see some outbreak pulled off soon in Nicaragua where an American soldier is shot.

Mr. President, I was in this city last August when the Knights of Columbus in convention at Philadelphia passed this resolution. Let me read some more of what they said:

We particularly call upon the American Federation of labor and its affiliated organizations to heed this appeal to cooperate with us to safeguard not only American rights but the hard-won victories of labor itself, to protect it from servile submission to destructive powers of a militaristic and communistic form of government.

And the Washington Post this morning, one of their mouthpieces, has a big cartoon on the editorial page—the Federation of Labor, a stalwart, husky fellow, kicking communism out of Mexico.

Why, Mr. President, we would be stupid indeed if we could read this resolution and then not see that they are seeking intervention—war—with Mexico. A man would be dull indeed who could not see that these forces have been doing everything in their power to drive us into war with Mexico.

As I said a moment ago, it is unpleasant to have to bring out these things. I am not making any attack on anybody's church. I am opposed to allowing anybody's church and everybody's church plunge my country into war; and I want to know what the average American of average intelligence and of unquestioned loyalty will think when he reads about the Knights of Columbus in the United States pledging their aid to the Knights of Columbus of Mexico, and at the same time denouncing our Government for its course, and raising money for the purpose of involving us in war. What do they mean by that? Is there something more sacred and above allegiance to the Government of the United States? Is the tie that binds



them to the Knights of Columbus of Mexico stronger than the tie that binds them to their country. Why is it that they strike their country a body blow with one hand in that resolution and at the same time extend the other into a foreign country, giving assurance of aid and support to the Knights of Columbus over there?

We might just as well be frank about this matter. The country is going to know the truth, so far as I am able to convey that truth. I do not propose to sit silent here while certain interests are trying to drive us into war with Mexico. I am going to speak out in my place as a Senator, even if I incur the displeasure of the head of the Knights of Columbus. I believe in free speech and in a free press. Let them criticize my position here as elsewhere.

Since I commenced this fight in August they have already said nearly every mean thing about me that they can say. In my efforts to prevent war I care nothing for the criticism of those who want war. I know I have offended them. I would love to have the good will of every man and woman in the United States. I love people, and I love to stay in a good humor; I love to laugh, and I like to tell stories and hear them told; but the Bible says there is a time for all things. There is a time to laugh, and there is a time to be serious. There is a time to work, and a time for refraining from work. But the time for me to discharge my duty to my country is every day during the time that I have been selected to serve in this body.

Mr. President, I recall, in 1914, when a little war cloud in the Old World was seen above the horizon, and nobody thought very much about it. I saw that cloud grow. I saw it expand. I saw it spread until its black wings covered the earth, and I saw 10,000,000 young men murdered in the shadow of those black wings. I saw half the wealth of the world consumed on the altars of war.

Nobody will do more to defend that flag and its honor than I will; but I am not ready to have it employed as a banner of the Knights of Columbus on an expedition to carry aid and comfort to their brother Knights of Columbus in a foreign country.

The President of Mexico, as I understand it, is trying to separate church and State in Mexico.

This country ought to be the very last one upon the earth to lift its hand and draw its sword against a country imitating it in the separation, complete and absolute separation, of church and State.

This resolution speaks for itself. I read it in August, and I was shocked and astounded. I gave out a statement then, and that is when this wrath arose against me from the Knights of Columbus. That is when they perhaps determined that they would preach a crusade against me through the columns of the sheets they control. But what is a loyal American Senator to do? If he is an upstanding American, and worthy to sit here, what is he to do—fold his arms and seal his lips and permit his country to be used to further the cause of sinister interests or fraternal or church interests? I do not care whose church it is, whether it is a Protestant Church or a Catholic Church. I will not be their tool in such an hour.

God forbid that the day shall ever come when an American Senator fears to lift his voice in this place and speak the truth against the Catholic Church or a Protestant Church when they do things against the best interests of the country.

I am not in favor of permitting these or any other influences to go to work and drag my country into war. The propaganda that started in this resolution is being spilled out every day around here by the advocates of war with Nicaragua. That is not what they are after. Let us tell the truth about it. Mexico is the object in view. War with Mexico is what they want. Why not let the country know the truth? If we go to war the day will come when they will have to know. The day will come when they will bid their boys good-bye at the gate and see them march off to a foreign battle field to fight, and maybe to die.

Why not tell the truth about it? Should I refrain from doing so because I fear that some king bee of the Knight of Columbus would become offended, that he would write a little piece denouncing me? I know he is offended. He would be offended with you, Senators, if you dare to put yourselves in the way of this war program.

### **Heflin Persists**

Every obstacle possible to throw in his path, to consume time, to choke him off is resorted to—but he persists.

January 18th, his further remarks are quoted in the Congressional Record, beginning at page 1843;

### **Relations With Mexico**

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, on Saturday last when I was discussing a very important question here the Senator

from Massachusetts (Mr. Gillett) made a point of order against me and demanded that the Senate proceed with the regular order. So I was not permitted to finish saying what I was trying to say about the resolution passed by the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia in August last year. I had stated some of the things in that resolution, and I am now going to state some other things in it.

\* \* \* \* \*

I called the attention of the Senate and the country to the statement in the resolution that the Knights of Columbus criticized their own Government for its attitude toward Mexico and expressed sympathy with the Knights of Columbus of Mexico and pledged them their support, and they raised at that convention in Philadelphia \$1,000,000 to carry on their propaganda. That is not denied. It can not be denied.

Now I want the country to know to what extent the Knights of Columbus control the press. I do not intend that this serious question in the Capital of the Nation, that may ultimately cost the lives of thousands of American boys, shall be camouflaged and covered up. I want the country to know what I say upon this subject by reading the Record and not by some of the press reports that go out from the Capital; and I want to ask this question of the country now, if the press, or any portion of it, at this Capitol is going to be permitted to suppress the truth regarding this great question?

I do not intend that the Knights of Columbus or any other group of people in the United States shall suppress the truth that the people of this Government are entitled to have. I am going to try to see that we have a fair deal; and, to the end that the Congressional Record will show it, I will state that I have prepared 24 copies of a statement which I am going to make in a moment, and I am sending them to the press gallery so that every newspaper in the country can have access to the statement. I am going to watch the newspapers, and I am going to have the committee in the Library on legislation go over the papers and report to me just what newspaper space the American people are going to have accorded to them for the purpose of giving to them the truth about their servants here who are trying to prevent war with Mexico.

Mr. President, to show by Knights of Columbus documents just what they are driving at, I read from a pamphlet printed by the Knights of Columbus. It is their



official organ in the United States. I read from an article on page 9 entitled "Mexico's constitution" from a Knights of Columbus pamphlet; at the top of the front page in big letters is the word "Mexico"; under the word "Mexico" on the front page a large hand reaching down and a picture of the Catholic Church right under the hand, as if it were about to be plucked up; right under that the words "Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, New Haven, Conn., 1926."

Now, listen:

The real intent of the framers of the constitution (of Mexico) seems to have been the destruction of religion, at least it hampers and restricts religious activities.

Now, let me read from another copy of the Knights of Columbus pamphlet. On the front page are the words, "Red Mexico: The Facts." Before I do that, however, I want to refer again to the resolution passed by the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia. Now, get this language:

Ministers of all religions are denied the right to exercise their sacred function. Profession and vocation are prohibited. The right to take sacred vows for the service of God is denied, freedom of conscience—

And so forth.

Following this action by the Knights of Columbus in Philadelphia, which shows that the propaganda was widespread, that everything was ready to be touched off, an article was written to the Chicago Tribune from San Antonio, Tex., down on the Mexican border, the next day after this resolution appeared in the press of the United States. Listen to this. It is found on page 10 of this Knights of Columbus pamphlet.

Mexico and the United States have reached an impasse.

Which means that they are ready to go to fighting right now. Something must be done at once. The Knights of Columbus have spoken. The word has gone forth; the Army must be marshaled, the flag unfurled, and across the border line into Mexico our soldiers must go, because the edict has gone out from the Knights of Columbus in Philadelphia.

Listen: Now, let me show you how intimate this man appears to be with those who represent the United States in Mexico:

More than 500 notes calling the attention of the Mexican Government to its failures have been written by American Ambassador James Sheffield to the Mexican Government. It is said—



Listen to this—

that the answers have, without exception, been evasions or direct refusals to act.

Was Mr. Sheffield telling this man about these notes? Was he writing this large number of notes for a purpose? Was he in any way engaged in this war propaganda? God forbid!

The situation—

He goes on to say—

is such that Mr. Sheffield is leaving Mexico City on August 13 to report personally to President Coolidge.

Why, Mr. President, a blind man can see the handwriting on the wall. This resolution appeared on August 6. This article appeared on August 8, and Sheffield comes to Washington on August 13, and this man says that none of the answers to our notes were satisfactory. This man knew more than Senators know. I have not yet been permitted to see what these answers are. Other Senators and other Members of the House are as much in the dark as I am on the subject; but this man who is carrying on a part of the propaganda, who voices the sentiments of the Knights of Columbus—because they print it in their pamphlet—he knows, and he is telling some things.

Now, listen:

Everything that can be done by diplomacy has been done, it is said—

Who told him that? Who took this man into his confidence? Who is it that is giving out state secrets? Who is it that is telling a man who is writing an article which appeared later in the pamphlet of the Knights of Columbus just what is going on, and not letting the Congress and the country know what is going on?

Continuing, he said:

and the opinion in informed circles is that the administration is faced with the necessity of giving way to Mexican arrogance or making President Calles understand that unless he lives up to his agreements another form of action must follow.

Mr. President, there you are, with everything cut and dried, only awaiting the glistening of the bayonet and the march of the Army. Now, if you say I injected the religious issue, let me read to you a congratulatory telegram, or a portion of it, from a Catholic bishop to the Knights of Columbus on the resolution passed at Philadelphia. Let us see whether he is speaking about America and American rights, or whether he has in mind the Catholic Church.

Here it is, on page 9 of the Knights of Columbus pamphlet. I read, in big headlines:

#### APPROBATION

This opportunity is taken to congratulate the Knights of Columbus on the splendid pronouncement concerning the Mexican situation. It seemed to have aroused a dormant element in his country and to have shown it that American Catholics may not, with impunity, be disregarded and slighted.

D. CARDINAL DOUGHERTY,  
*Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

This Catholic bishop seemed to think that the things demanded in the resolution were of particular interest to Catholics. Now, I am going to read from the statement that I have sent to the press gallery.

Mr. President, in an article appearing in the January number of The New Age, a magazine published here in the Capital of the Nation, there is a fine comparison of the old and new constitutions of Mexico by Albert H. Putney, director of the School of the Political Sciences of the American University, Washington, D. C. Among other things he says:

The old constitution to which the Roman Catholics look back with longing had the following provision relative to the right of religious worship:

"Art. 2. The nation professes the Roman Catholic apostolic religion, and will not tolerate the public worship of any other."

Let me read that again. Article 2 of the old Mexican constitution said:

The nation professes the Roman Catholic apostolic religion, and will not tolerate the public worship of any other.

Then Mr. Putney says:

This is the law which they approve. This is their idea of religious liberty, and this is the constitutional provision which they are fighting to have restored.

And is our Army to go off to fight for such a purpose? Are the Catholic boys and the Protestant boys and the other boys of the United States to be summoned to the firing line, armed and equipped for battle, and sent to a foreign field to restore a constitution that denies freedom of religion, to restore the Catholic Church to power in Mexico?

Mr. Putney says that is what they are fighting for.

Again, he says:

The new constitution contains the following provisions:

Listen to this, Senators:

Art. 24. Every man is free to embrace the religion of his choice and to practice such ceremony, devotions, or observances of

their respective creed, either in places of public worship or at home.

That sounds like some of the provisions in the American Constitution.

Mr. President, I ask that I have order on the Republican side.

The Vice President rapped with his gavel.

Mr. Heflin. Article 130 of the new Mexican constitution provides:

The Congress shall not enact any law establishing or forbidding any religion whatsoever.

Commenting on the last two articles, Mr. Putney said:

These are the provisions which they consider religious persecution and which they are fighting to have repealed.

Mr. President, let me read what the President of Mexico himself said upon that subject:

It is untrue that we interfere with the religious convictions of any human being.

In the face of the constitution of Mexico, and the statements of the President of Mexico, the Knights of Columbus of the United States, strange to say, are still spreading a propaganda in this country to the effect that the Mexican Government is destroying religious freedom in Mexico. The facts do not sustain the charge.

Mr. President, I will not take the time of the Senate to read, but I shall ask to print at this place a statement from the President of Mexico replying to the letter of the Catholic bishops of the United States.

At this point Mr. Heflin caused to be printed in the record Sidney Sutherland's article interviewing President Calles of Mexico which was quoted in *The New Menace* at the time and needs no repetition here. However it bears repeating that President Calles delivered a mighty able history of papal perfidy in Mexico and disclosed a knowledge of the papal propaganda seeking trouble here. At page 1845 Heflin continues;

Mr. Heflin. I want to say just another word about war, and read a line or two from the *New York World*. It says:

By virtue of the memorandum on communism in Latin America which he has submitted to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Secretary Kellogg has gone over to the war party which now dominates the State Department. The war party is almost in control. It has captured Mr. Kellogg. It is causing the profoundest embarrassment to the President.



We, who are professing to be for peace on earth and good will to men are fast being dragged into a war to protect the oil interests of Doheny and Sinclair, and others of their ilk, and to help return to political power the Catholic Church in Mexico.

Are we going to do that? Mr. President, I said the other day that I am opposed to taking our Army off to further the cause of the Protestant Church, the Catholic Church, the Hebrew Church, or any other church. We have in the United States absolute separation of church and state, and Mexico has followed in our footsteps. In her new constitution she has separation of church and state, and now we are urged to send an army over to destroy the constitution that puts Mexico on the same basis with us, and to go back to the constitution that declared that no Protestant or other religion will be tolerated in Mexico.

The Army of the United States can not be used for that purpose without my solemn protest and earnest opposition. Not a single American boy can be killed for that purpose without American men and women of this Nation knowing what is at the bottom of it.

The New York World continues:

The present difficulties with Mexico can not be peaceably composed unless the Administration desires peace. There are grounds of legitimate dispute between the two Governments. The rights and the wrongs are not wholly on either side. But there is no question at issue between Mexico and the United States which is not susceptible ultimately of pacific settlement by men who are determined to maintain the peace. The resources of civilized dealing are not exhausted. They have not even been used. All that we have had so far is a debate at arm's length between smart and suspicious bureaucrats.

Listen to this, Senators:

We have not yet had an American ambassador in Mexico City who desired seriously to come to a direct personal understanding with officials who are beset on every side by the tremendous problems and the resultant hysteria of a social revolution and a religious reformation.

Mr. President, there is a plain, clear-cut charge laid before the American people by a big daily paper in the United States saying that our representative in Mexico does not want peace, and insinuating that his influence is on the side of war.

If I were to sit here, knowing these facts, and fail to disclose them, I would be a contemptible coward; I would not be worthy to represent the great people who sent me here or to speak, in part, for the rank and file of the



American people, whose interests I am trying to serve and safeguard.

Let us help the President to know the whole truth. Mr. President, I hope the President will do all in his power to avoid war. This great Government will show no cowardice, but will show a big, brave heart, a splendid love of peace, and a proper consideration for the lives of its own sons, if our President will say to Calles, "Let us get together and iron out our differences, and not kill any of the boys of your country or of mine. Let us settle our differences regarding property rights and all other differences in the halls of peace." That is what I want the President to do.

I want to bring one more thing to the attention of the Senate and the country, and that is the President's message, in which he told us that some of our bankers had bought a few million dollars' worth of Nicaraguan bonds. They bought those bonds at their own risk. They bought them at a discount, when they were away down, and now are we ready to set a precedent, to say that an American citizen may go abroad, go into the hotbed of insurrection and war, and make an investment, and then come back and call the armies of the United States to go over and protect his investment? They took their money out of the United States; they left their own country and went over and invested their money in a hazardous situation abroad. They took a chance, and now we are called upon to do the new, strange, and ridiculous thing—to lead an army and take our battleships to a foreign country to collect the bonds of reckless adventurers who have bought for a small price the bonds of warring governments in a foreign country. Let the country know the truth and the whole truth.

Mr. Bruce, rose.

Mr. Heflin. I yield to the Senator.

Mr. Bruce. I will wait until the Senator is through.

Mr. Heflin. Does the Senator want to ask me a question?

Mr. Bruce. No; I will wait until the Senator is through. I want to make some comments on what the Senator has said, as it deeply affects a very large portion of the population of my State.

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I yield now to give the Senator a chance to say something, and I may have some observations to make when he is through.

As disclosed by the newspapers of that date Senator

Bruce of Maryland, rose to defend the papal aggregation, and to laud the Knights of Columbus. We shall not publish his remarks, though we do publish Heflin's reply. This attitude is not taken unfairly—Bruce said nothing to detract from the weight of Heflin's charges, nor did Reed of Missouri. Both were merely assailing "bigotry" and getting right with Roman Catholic voters. Their remarks can be had by writing to them for the congressional record of the dates we quote if any reader is desirous of wasting a two cent stamp on reading a Protestant senator's bid for papal votes.

Mr. Heflin replied to Bruce as follows, his remarks beginning on page 1846 of the Record for January 18th:

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I have been bitterly attacked outside of this Chamber by those who favor war, those who are influenced by the oil kings, the Nicaraguan bondholders, and by the Knights of Columbus. This is the first time that anyone has spoken in this Chamber in defense of the resolution of the Knights of Columbus, except the Senator from Montana (Mr. Walsh), who the other day had printed in the Record a letter from the Catholic bishops of the United States, and who also submitted a denunciation of myself by the head of the Knights of Columbus in the United States. I permitted that to be printed in the Record. I want to be entirely fair with everybody. I am trying to give to the country the facts as I know them, and because I have dared to call to the attention of the Senate a resolution passed in Philadelphia by the Knights of Columbus, Catholics, of course, and have commented on it in this Chamber and have read comments from the Knights of Columbus and from their pamphlets, two of which I hold in my hand, the Senator from Maryland has seen fit to indulge in some right severe language regarding myself.

I owe something to those boys out yonder in the common walks of life. When this Government sounds its big, strong voice, they will have nothing to say, but will have to put on their uniforms and shoulder their guns and go off to battle. When they ask, "What are we fighting for?" I want them to know the truth. Is that intolerance?

I do not want the President to go to war with Mexico, and I am hoping that he will not do so. I want him to know how the country feels, and I will say to the Senator

from Maryland that I voice on this floor the feelings of four-fifths of the rank and file of the intelligent, loyal American citizens. They do not want war. They are not ready to go and fight for Mr. Mellon's oil properties in Mexico. I will ask the Senator from Maryland to go and inquire if Lord Cowdrey, a big English oil king, has not made over his oil interests to his friend Mellon, the Secretary of the Treasury?

Oh, Mr. President, there are a lot of angles to this Mexican situation. There are a lot of influences at work.

I have read statements into the Record this morning which the Senator from Maryland can not refute. I read a statement from the bishop of Philadelphia, where he expressed that the dormant element in America—meaning the Protestants, of course—had been aroused and had been shown by the Knights of Columbus resolution that the Catholics in America would not be ignored. He injected the religious issue. What was he doing but appealing to the Catholic side of the question when he sent that message?

I never raised that issue. I was in Washington when that resolution was passed. I was sitting at my breakfast table when I read it in the Post, and when I read it I laid down the paper and shook my head and went to my office and dictated a statement, which I gave out to the press. Since that time I have been attacked by several Catholic papers in the United States. Why is that? Am I in the way of their program? Am I interfering with what they are trying to do? Have I offended them by rising in my place as a Senator and seeking to bring all these disclosures to the attention of the people of the United States?

These records speak for themselves. They are being circulated by the Knights of Columbus. I have dared to read them in this place, and because I have dared to speak of them the Senator from Maryland—mercy upon him!—has risen in his place to deliver a lecture to an American Senator who dares to try to prevent war, to promote peace, to save the lives of American boys, and to live at peace with Mexico and other countries.

Senator Reed then attacked Heflin and drew the following reply, which we quote from page 1845;

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I will detain the Senate but a moment. The Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) has drawn a beautiful picture of the brave Protestants and Catholics who fought under our flag in the World War. I



would not pluck from the brow of one of them a single laurel won by their valor and heroism on the fields of France. I commend them, all of them, for their superb courage and patriotism. I supported them at the battle front and I supported them when they came back home in their demands for fair and just compensation at the hands of the Government. I have never before been accused of having any religious intolerance. I have never had occasion to say a word against the Knights of Columbus before the passage of this resolution in favor of war. When I read that resolution I felt that it was wrong in principle and fraught with grave danger to the peace and happiness of the country, and I dared to say so, not as a Protestant, but as a loyal American Senator. I did not then and do not now want war with Mexico.

Mr. President, I am serious and very much in earnest in my opposition to war. I am not seeking to offend anybody when I stand in my place here and seek to promote peace and prevent war. I am not seeking to offend Catholics; neither am I apologizing to them or anybody else for asking my Government to employ every means at its command to keep the United States out of war with Mexico. Am I to understand that I may discuss every body else who wants war with Mexico, but must not—dare not mention here the plain and pointed demands for war found in the Knights of Columbus resolution? Most of the speech of the Senator from Missouri had nothing on earth to do with this situation.

I agree with him that there were brave Catholics in the War of the Revolution, in the war between the States, and in the World War. I am not trying to take from them a single honor to which they are entitled. And everybody here knows that I have in no way criticized or reflected upon them. That has nothing to do with the question now before us. I am not talking about the past, but about what is taking place in the living present. When anybody in the present time, in a situation so dangerous as the situation with Mexico is, is doing things in the United States that encourage war, that demand war, as the Knights of Columbus resolution does, I shall continue to do everything that I can to defeat their purpose.

Mr. President, it seems that I have offended the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) by bringing this Knights of Columbus war resolution into the discussion in the Senate. Is not an American Senator still at liberty to

read here a resolution passed by a Roman Catholic organization which seeks to drive us into war with a foreign nation? Is he to be intimidated into cowardice and silence for fear somebody will accuse him of intolerance? Has the time come in the Senate of the United States when an American Senator is to be subjected to the bitter criticism of two of the sharpest-tongued men in this body because he dares to speak the truth about the war propaganda of the Knights of Columbus?

Am I to be accused of being a bigot and a man of intolerance because I read, not what I wrote but what the Knights of Columbus wrote in convention at Philadelphia? Am I to be criticized by the Senators for reading their criticism and their attack upon the Government of the United States? Is it injecting a religious issue into the discussion here when I read a resolution in which the Knights of Columbus said that the conditions in Mexico are encouraged and aided by the Government that they have sworn to support and sustain? Am I sinning against the Catholic Church when I dare to speak here for my country against the Knights of Columbus program for war against a foreign country?

What are we coming to in this body? Are these two Senators trying to create a situation here in the American Senate so frightful and fearful that no American Senator in the future will dare to lift his voice in any situation where a Roman Catholic is involved?

The Vice President. The Senator will suspend. The hour of 2 o'clock having arrived, the Chair lays before the Senate the unfinished business, which is House bill 11768.

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, let me say in conclusion that I have no apology to make to the Senator from Missouri.

In conclusion I want to say that I commend the able Senator from Idaho (Mr. Borah), who thinks of the boys in the United States who must do the fighting if war with Mexico comes. I commend the Senators who think of the blood and treasure that is to be poured out to protect the oil interests of Mr. Mellon and the other oil kings, along with Doheny and Sinclair. I thank the Senators who are aiding and encouraging me in my efforts to defeat the war program of the Knights of Columbus and the war program of everybody else. The Philadelphia Knights of Columbus resolution speaks for itself. It is war propaganda pure and simple, and if my opposition to it is reli-

gious intolerance I stand by my guns, and you may make the most of it. Mirabeau was loved and honored by the people of France. He was the idol of the masses, but never was he so great as on that day when in the French Assembly he defied a rich, arrogant, and haughty nobility and a powerful and unscrupulous Catholic clergy and with the battle-ax of truth broke down the idols that corruption had erected in the temple of liberty, and there were patriotic Catholics backing him in that movement to free France from the power of the pope.

At this point Senator Walsh, (R. C.) of Massachusetts obtained the floor and nobly defended his church and Knights of Columbus.

Then Heflin speaks out again; (page 1851).

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I do not quiet understand the speech of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Walsh). If he is not a knight of Columbus why should he feel called upon to attack my position in bringing to the attention of the Senate the war resolution which was passed by the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia? It speaks for itself. I did not write the things that are in that resolution. They are in the Record of last week, and the people of the country who read the Record of that date and the Record of to-day will be able to decide for themselves. The things that I read to the Senate to-day are from the pamphlets of the Knights of Columbus. I had nothing to do with their preparation or publication. They are being broadcast by the Knights of Columbus. They constitute war propaganda; and I am accused of being intolerant because I have read from these pamphlets and from the resolution of the Knights of Columbus. I am laying the facts before the Senate and before the country.

I have been fighting this war propaganda from the beginning, and I do not care whether these attacks come from Mr. Mellon, who holds oil interests in Mexico, made over to him recently by Lord Cowdrey, or other interests, or other oil kings of America, Protestants, or by the Knights of Columbus, Catholic; they will not deter me. I know my duty, and I am not asking the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Walsh) to tell me what my duty is or to give me his permission to perform it. Neither am I asking the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Bruce) or the



Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) or any other Senator in this body to do so. I am responsible to my constituents in Alabama and to my country, and, by the help of God, I am going to continue in the future as I have in the past to do my duty as I see it regardless of the consequences.

Nothing the Senator from Massachusetts has said takes out of the Knights of Columbus resolution the attack made on this Government for its policy in regard to Mexico; nothing that the Senator has said denies the statement I read showing that the Knights of Columbus raised a million dollars to carry on their war propaganda; nothing the Senator from Massachusetts has said can take out of the Knights of Columbus resolution its pointed demand upon President Coolidge to cease "watchful waiting" and to adopt some other quick and direct course—which, of course, meant war with Mexico. Nicaragua is the beginning point or entering wedge.

Let me say in conclusion that the message sent to the Knights of Columbus in Philadelphia approving the resolution that they passed at Philadelphia August 5, 1926, regarding war with Mexico, which bears alone on the religious phase of this question, came from a Catholic bishop of Philadelphia. I read it into the Record to-day. I again assert that I did not inject the religious issue into this controversy. The Knights of Columbus, members of the Catholic Church in the United States, did it.

At this point Senator Robinson obtained the floor and offered a resolution having a vital bearing on the situation. We quote;;

The resolution (S. Res. 327) was read, as follows:

*Resolved by the Senate of the United States, That while, by virtue of sovereignty, the duty devolves upon this Government to protect the lives and property of its nationals in foreign countries, which duty is not to be neglected or disregarded, it is nevertheless sound policy, consistent with the honor and best interest of the United States and promotive of international peace and good will to submit to arbitration, or to some impartial tribunal empowered to apply the principles of international law, the diplomatic controversies with Mexico relating to the alleged retroactive and confiscatory provisions of the petroleum and alien-land ownership statutes asserted by Mexico to have been enacted under the 1917 constitution of the Mexican Republic.*

*That in good will and friendliness efforts should be made and persisted in to effect arrangements whereby all controversies which have arisen or which may hereafter arise with Mexico relating to the property or property rights of nationals of the United States in Mexico which may not be adjusted by diplomatic negotiations, shall*

be arbitrated or litigated conditions which will commit the two Governments to the policy of abiding by and executing any awards that may be made or judgments that may be rendered in consequence of such arrangements to arbitrate or litigate.

We pause here to remark that the presentation of the Robinson Resolution at this juncture was a piece of fine strategy. This resolution would have to receive the approval of Roman Catholic senators or else their fight on Heflin and noble defense of their church would be held up to the world against them. It put them in the nine hole when the time should come to vote.

Senator Robinson made a very good speech and was followed by Senator Ashurst (R. C.) of Arizona who assailed Senator Heflin. Mr. Heflin's reply we quote at page 1854;

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Ashurst) has not in any way touched the meat of the Knights of Columbus resolution passed at Philadelphia. I have read it to the Senate and to the country. Its pertinent points are in the Congressional Record. There is a demand in it for war. The Knights of Columbus denounce the policy of "watchful waiting" on the part of the Government of the United States. They say the time for that has passed. They for some reason demand of their Government quick action of another kind. A million dollars is raised to carry on their propaganda. They denounce their own Government for its policy of watchful waiting. The Senator from Arizona can not get away from the resolution of the Knights of Columbus by simply saying that I have injected a religious issue; I have not. The Senator says in his speech here in the Senate that Christ founded the Catholic Church and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Ransdell) said the same thing. I have not discussed that question here. I differ with them, as do members of other denominations, that Christ, to the exclusion of all other churches, singled out and established the Catholic Church. He did not do it.

Let me say in closing that all that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Ashurst) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Walsh) may say and all that any other Senator may say will not deter me in doing what I feel is for the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the American people. I have disclosed and discussed the war propaganda of oil magnates—Protestants and Catholics alike—and I will continue to do so.

Papers throughout the country now took up the Romish refrain denouncing Heflin as a bigot, one daily paper at Springfield, Missouri going so far as to run an editorial denouncing him, under a headline, "A Bigoted Ass". The compiler of this booklet replied to him through The New Menace and we later were told that the subscribers of that daily paper so resented the Editor's attitude that fully half of them ordered their paper stopped.

But Senator Heflin was equal to his enemies and the master of millions of them could he but get the audience he deserves. After being attacked over the radio on the night of January 20th he rose in the Senate on the 21st, saying, at page 2086 of the Record;

### **Heflin Mixes Wit With History**

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, my attention has just been called to an attack made upon me over the radio last Wednesday night by a man who calls himself "Frederick William Wile." I wonder how much of the million dollars raised by the Knights of Columbus of Philadelphia is being paid to this blatherskite for his attacks on me. I wonder if attacking American Senators is a part of his work as the hired agent of Japan, and I wonder if he has ever been naturalized, and if so, under what name.

A friend has just handed me the following poem on Frederick William Willensky:

Frederick William Willensky,  
Every once in a while,  
Talks over the radio  
As Frederick William Wile.

Unworthy of his Hebrew name,  
He steals one from the gentile,  
And imposes on the country  
As Frederick William Wile.

Will wonders never cease?  
Willensky turns the trick;  
Sheds his honored Hebrew name  
And becomes a Catholic.

So goodbye, Frederick William Willensky,



We've got your number now ;  
Both gentile and Jew disown you—  
Where are going, and how ?

(Laughter.)

Mr. President, during the last session of Congress the following resolution was introduced in the House by Congressman Boylan, of New York :

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the President should forthwith withdraw diplomatic recognition of the Government of Mexico.

Hearings were had upon that resolution, and Judge Talley, a very able jurist from the State of New York, appeared before the committee, and said :

Judge Morgan J. O'Brien and myself have been delegated by the Catholic clubs, representing the Catholic Club of the City of New York, to appear here and express the sentiment of the membership of the club. The Catholic Club is made up of leading business and professional men of the city of New York, membership 700, and represents, I am able enough to say, Catholic sentiment of the city of New York. In what we have to say in connection with this matter now engaging your attention, we are representing the sentiment of the Catholic laity, for whom only we speak, throughout the city of New York.

On page 80 of that record, while Judge Talley was still testifying, Mr. Fish, Congressman from New York, said :

You have asked us to do something—to withdraw our recognition of Mexico ?

Mr. Talley. Yes.

So the Catholics of New York, according to Judge Talley, were demanding that the Government sever diplomatic relations with Mexico.

Mr. President, I called attention here a few days ago to the Knights of Columbus resolution of Philadelphia, passed last August, in which they took this Government severely to task for its policy toward Mexico. This morning I read an editorial article in a Catholic paper—the Catholic Union and Times—published in Buffalo, N. Y. The Catholic editor, in his editorial of January 13, uses this significant language :

Just as has been predicted, this Government, sooner or later, is faced with the unpleasant task of sending troops across the Rio Grande.

Mr. President, further down in this editorial is found this astounding statement :

It is our prediction that the United States will be at war with Mexico before June 1.

Who has given such an assurance ? Who is it that is

carrying on whispered conversations with the writers of these editorials and making promises that when Congress shall have adjourned and gone home, when the people's representatives are no longer here, everything will be put into "war form," touched off in due time, and that American troops will be fighting with Mexican troops by the 1st of June this year? Mr. President, is not that prediction astounding? And is it not interesting and significant, coming from the source it does, in view of the fact that the Knights of Columbus have raised a million dollars to carry on war propaganda? These are significant things that I am bringing to the attention of the Senate and of the country, and I will continue to do so, even at the risk of being accused by the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Bruce) or the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) of being intolerant or injecting a religious issue in the debate here when I bring the truth about war propaganda to this Chamber, regardless of whether it be by a Protestant or a Catholic, who wants to go to war with Mexico.

I think the people, whose Government this is, are entitled to know what is going on all the time. I think the people whose sons must do the fighting when the flag is unfurled and war is declared with Mexico should know every step that is taken leading up to such a conflict, and, running the risk of incurring the displeasure of the Senator from Missouri and the Senator from Maryland, I shall continue to do my duty in the Senate as I see it.

I hold here a clipping from a newspaper about Doctor Cesar being in Washington. This paper of yesterday said:

President to meet Diaz representative late this afternoon, Dr. Alejandro Cesar.

I have been told that this man's name is Dr. Alejandro Cesar Chamorro, and that he is one of the Chamorros from Nicaragua and the first cousin to old General Chamorro. It might be well to inquire into that and find out if that is true.

Mr. President, I rejoice to see that the President of Mexico has notified President Coolidge that he is willing to arbitrate the questions at issue between the United States and Mexico. I congratulate the President on the success made so far in the interest of arbitration. I want to see war avoided and I want Congress to be of such assistance as it may be to the President of the United States. Let us give to him the facts that come into our possession. I am doing what I can along that line. I am

receiving letters and telegrams from all over the country indorsing the work that I am doing as an humble Senator against war and every Senator here owes it to the people of his State to do everything in his power to keep us out of war.

### **A Signal Victory**

We quoted, just a few pages back, the Robinson resolution. One January 25th it came up for consideration. There was much discussion pro and con on various phases of the situation. Senator Heflin, strategist and fighter to the last, left no bars down—he was ready to push the advantage he had over papal senators, if they were to make good Rome's bluff of not favoring war with Mexico here was their chance. He spoke as follows, at page 2229 of the Record for that day: (We omit some of the congratulatory letters Senators Heflin had printed in the record endorsing his position)

Mr. Heflin. Mr. President, I listened with a great deal of interest to the speech of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Robinson), as well as to the speech of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Lenroot), and I always enjoy hearing my good friend, the eloquent Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Harrison). It seems that this resolution has encountered some opposition, and while the Senator from Wisconsin speaks a little in its favor, the tenor of his speech is against it. He seems to be making arguments throughout his speech as to why we should go to war with Mexico. I am very much interested in the resolution and in having it acted upon to-day. That is in a large measure what I have been wanting the Senate to do, and I rejoice that we are at last about to get action. I am also in favor of the amendment of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Norris).

The Senator from Wisconsin has told us about President Wilson placing an embargo upon arms to Mexico in 1914, and he stated that before the day was done the President modified his orders and permitted arms to be shipped to Carranza and his forces. The same Catholic influence that besieged him and prevailed upon him to change that order, is the same influence that sought to have him go to war with Mexico in 1916 just prior to the election; the same influence that sought to drive him into war with Mexico in 1916 is seeking to have President Coolidge plunge this country into war with Mexico to-day.

I discussed this matter at some length a week ago. I



aroused the ire of several distinguished Senators, among them the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Bruce) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed). Of course, there were three of the five Roman Catholic Senators who took part in the debate; one could hardly expect them to remain silent and say nothing when I was assailing the war program of their friends the Knights of Columbus, but the Senator from Missouri and the Senator from Maryland felt called upon to lecture me because I, an American Senator, had dared to read in this body a Mexican war propaganda resolution which had been passed by American citizens who are Roman Catholic in faith and who are members of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. President, during that speech I said that it was impossible to get the truth from the Senate gallery through the press to the people of the United States. I make that assertion again to-day. I have had sent to me from every nook and corner of the country garbled reports that went out from this Senate press gallery. It is nothing short of the suppression of the truth that I uttered here.

In the first place, the biggest morning daily newspaper in the Capital is a Catholic paper—the Washington Post. It has a column that it calls “The Doings of the Senate,” or something to that effect, which is supposed to recite what occurs here. I made a speech here last Friday, a short speech, in which I called attention to the fact that the editor of a Roman Catholic newspaper in Buffalo, N. Y. said, on January 13, that this country would be at war with Mexico by the 1st of June. The Washington Post did not have a line about it; it suppressed the truth and kept its readers from what occurred in opposition to the war program of the Knights of Columbus.

I have here a copy of the New York Times. It carried a story of my speech last week—and what a story it was! It was headed:

Democratic colleagues turn on Heflin.

Was not that a well-timed and interesting headline for the Knights of Columbus and their adherents?

It is easy to understand just exactly the impression they were trying to make upon the reading public.

Resent injection in debate of religious question raised by Heflin.

The man who wrote that knew that he was uttering a falsehood when he wrote it. I did not inject a religious issue. The Knights of Columbus injected it; the bishop

of Philadelphia, when he congratulated them and spoke of the Catholic Church and its interests in Mexico, injected the religious issue. It is true that I discussed the issue that their un-American conduct presented to the country, and I have no apology to make for doing it.

How tense the situation here became! The Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed)—snow-white-haired candidate for President—comes in with innumerable tears welling up in his system. They gathered on the brink of his eyelids and then dashed down the furrows of his ambitious cheeks as he sought to get a glimpse of the White House; but, Mr. President, his performance on that day has turned the toes of his presidential boom to the daisies.

Why are some Senators afraid to speak above a whisper about this Roman Catholic power in the United States? Why should I, an American Senator, be afraid to stand up here and say what the truth warrants me in saying about a Catholic or anybody else who is caught carrying on a propaganda to involve my country in war?

Mr. President, the Senator who does his duty here is like a soldier on the firing line. He encounters many unpleasant and dangerous situations.

One of the fundamental principles in this great Government is freedom of religion, and the absolute separation of church and state. And yet when I discussed the Knights of Columbus resolution here the other day a Roman Catholic priest in the gallery back of me hissed me four or five times. I heard the noise but I did not know what it was. An American citizen sitting over here in the gallery to my right told me since that he left the Chamber when the guard refused to put the priest out. That is a miserable pass that we have come to in this administration when an American Senator can not stand in the Senate of the United States and speak against the efforts of the Roman Catholic Knights of Columbus to involve us in war without being insulted by the hisses of a Catholic priest. What are we coming to, Senators? I am doing what I have a right to do as an American Senator and I will discuss Catholic activities wherever I deem them harmful to my country and if I catch one of them hissing me it will not be good for him.

Mr. Copeland. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

The Presiding Officer (Mr. Walsh of Massachusetts in the chair). Does the Senator from Alabama yield to the Senator from New York?

Mr. Heflin. I yield for a question.

Mr. Copeland. May I ask the Senator—if it must be in the form of a question—whether he would condemn the entire Catholic Church because one priest happened to hiss him?

Mr. Heflin. Oh, no. I am satisfied that there are some Catholics who would not approve it; but I am telling Senators what occurred here, and the paper that I hold in my hand tells about the hissing. I repeat, has this administration reached the point where an American Senator can not stand in the Senate unafraid and speak in behalf of his country and in behalf of peace without being annoyed and insulted by Catholics who want war with Mexico?

“The Senator from Alabama was hissed,” is the headline carried by many newspapers. Why did not they tell the truth and say “A Catholic priest hissed Senator Heflin”? Every newspaper attack that has been made upon me was either written by a Roman Catholic editor or inspired and brought forth by a member of the Roman Catholic Church. I have letters from citizens of every State in the Union, without a single exception, many of them inclosing editorials, and saying:

Here is an editorial from a Catholic paper bitterly assailing you; but do not let it worry you; the American people are with you. Continue to tell the truth.

Not only that, Mr. President; the Washington Post, Ned McLean's Catholic paper, carried the speech of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) almost in full. The Washington Star, which I have thought in the main was a pretty fair paper and was probably freer from this influence than the other papers, published his speech in full and gave nothing of what I said. Neither one of them did. Why did they withhold from their readers the truth of the real issue? The press ought to give the truth to the public, just as an honest judge will give the truth to the jury, because here the public is the jury, and the public ought to have both sides, so that it can determine which is right. But in the case of this jury the press agent, the judge in the gallery, sends out certain portions of the testimony and he suppresses and stifles the other testimony and refuses to let the jury consider it.

Is the press at the Capital to continue under this Catholic domination? Has the time come when the truth from an American Senator on this floor can not reach the States from the press gallery yonder?



I make the assertion that three-fourths of the Senate was in sympathy with my position and four-fifths of the gallery were in hearty accord with me. The only applause that came from the gallery was when I was speaking. If there is a Senator here who will say that it is wrong to discuss in the Senate the efforts of the Knights of Columbus to involve us in war, and that I did wrong in discussing it in the Senate, let him stand up and say it.

Mr. President, with conditions as they are regarding war propaganda, we should not adjourn this Congress and go home and let something happen, as this Catholic editor in Buffalo says it will happen before the 1st of June, and have our boys fighting in Mexico. Then when we are called back it may be too late and there will be nothing to do but to "get behind the President." I am going to call upon patriotic Senators to stand here and fight, if necessary, to hold this Congress in session.

Why should we hurry off? I know that some of you Senators want to get home and rest and go fishing and hunting. That is not worth the snap of your finger against the lives of thousands of boys that will be lost in a conflict with Mexico. Of course, we would whip Mexico, in the long run. It would cost a lot of money, and a lot of our boys would be killed, and we would become involved with a lot of South American countries. God only knows where it would end.

I have one editorial from a Pennsylvania paper which said they were jumping on Senator Heflin because he caught the President fishing for a third term in Catholic waters. Are you Republican Senators afraid to open your mouths on this question? I am telling you what the Catholic forces tried to do with a Democratic President. They tried to make Wilson go into war with Mexico in 1916, and he would not do it, and they whirled a mass of Catholic votes against him, and if they had had two more weeks they would have defeated him, but he dared to stand by his guns and serve his country. We were right then face to face with the most embarrassing situation this Government was ever confronted with. We were right then engaged in watchful waiting, trying to keep out of the World War, and here was a force thinking more of a situation in Mexico than it did of the Government's position in world affairs, seeking to drive us into war with Mexico in 1916; and because Wilson declined, they did all in their power to defeat him. He won by a nose. So, the same

political force is at work on President Coolidge. I am just telling you, they are not any respectors of persons. They would just as soon vote the Republican ticket as the Democratic ticket. And now they want war with Mexico.

I have a letter here from a man up in the Northwest who told about a little boy who came home from a Catholic Church one Sunday not long ago and said, "Mama, the priest said we are going to war with Mexico."

The other day the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Robinson), the Democratic leader in the Senate, rose and made some remarks. I did not take any offense at what he said. He just said that he regretted that the debate had taken the turn that it had. Probably he meant the turn the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) gave it, or the turn the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Bruce) gave it. But how did the Catholic-controlled press turn it and twist it? They said, "The Democrats pounced on Heflin, Senator Robinson in the number, and gave him a terrible drubbing."

Mr. President, I had a mighty good night's sleep the night following that debate. I did not have any sore spots on me. It will be many a day before these Senators get away from the speeches I made against them. They are in that Record to stay. I am smoking them out and calling attention to their real positions on vital questions here.

Why should we not pass this resolution, and why not put the amendment of the Senator from Nebraska on it, which provides that if armed forces are to be used, Congress shall be consulted in advance? Why not? We are in session, and why not stay in session? I make that point and insist upon it, especially, because of the peculiar and dangerous influences that are at work to get us into war with Mexico.

The President should not object to that. If I were President and had the lives of our boys in my hands, I would welcome such a situation. I would be glad to have Congress advise with me on whether the armed forces should be used. Why not? Nobody can declare war but Congress. Why let Congress adjourn and go home on the 4th of March, and be away for a month or two, and let this war propaganda be carried on until, at the proper time, one of our boys is shot in Mexico, until at the proper time one of our ships is blown up, and the President calls us back, and when we get back the fighting will already be on, and there will be no way to stop it?

War is a serious thing, Senators. We seem to have

forgotten very quickly about the last war. I shall not soon forget seeing the caskets bring back the dead bodies of our soldiers from France, wrapped in the stars and stripes of this Union; seeing loved ones meet them at the station and follow the remains to Arlington and deposit them in the earth, to sleep until the resurrection morn. I shall not forget that thousands and tens of thousands of American boys who loved life as you and I love it, and had just as much right to live as you and I, went down to death in that struggle.

I repeat, Mr. President, I love my country, I believe, much as does any man in this body. I will go as far to protect it as any man in this body, but there is a great deal in what the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Harrison) said. These crafty, avaricious Americans who have accumulated millions out of their fellows at home, and frequently obtained it through questionable methods—and may be it is ill-gotten gain—go off into a foreign country and buy up property in a dangerous and hazardous situation, and then display our flag and sound the trumpet of distress and say. “I am an American citizen. It is true, I came in here of my own accord. It is a dangerous situation that I find myself in. It was so when I came, but I have bought this property, I bought it believing that I could use the United States Army to clean up and protect it, and I now call upon the Army to come and save my holdings.”

The upstanding men and women of America do not enthuse over that kind of call, they do not possess that kind of patriotism.

Already armed ships and soldiers have been sent to Nicaragua. Nicaragua is not the object in view. Mexico! Mexico! That is the excuse to go down there and get into that. Those who are agitating for interference in Nicaragua know what it means, that it means war with Mexico ultimately. If we have made a mistake in the step we have taken with our armed forces so far, the manliest thing this Government can do is to say it has made a mistake, and get out of it, as Wilson did on two or three occasions.

The Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Lenroot) made a speech which sounded mightily to me like a war speech, giving many reasons why something should be done. There has been talk about the Senator for Secretary of State, and if ever a nation on this earth needed a Secretary of State, a strong, virile fellow, it is the United States, but



the Senator from Wisconsin has made a speech here to-day that would keep him from being confirmed, because it looks as if he had blood in his eye, too, and that he wants war. We had better have a man as Secretary of State, if a change is to be made, who wants peace. If we are going to have a change, then let Congress fix this resolution so the officials can parley all they please, but the Army will not march until Congress commands it to march. Who can object to that?

Mr. President, I have received between 500 and 1,000 written complaints about the unfairness of the press. Men and women throughout the country are asking what the matter is that the newspapers will not give the truth. They say that they borrow the Congressional Record and pass it around and read it, and that that is the only way they can get the truth from the Capitol.

If the press has been bought outright, if the money interests of the Nation control it, we must do as we did Frank Smith, of Illinois, refuse it admission to the Senate gallery. They must come with clean hands, and if a man is to sit in that press gallery, he must tell the truth about Senators and what they say, and let the country know what takes place in debate, and not warp it and twist it and hide the truth, as they do now.

Of all the papers that I have searched and had searched, the only paper that printed what I said about the old Constitution and the new was the United States Daily, here in Washington.

Quite a number of weekly papers publish the facts as they find them in the Congressional Record.

Senators, that is severe indictment of the press of our country, and I have been told by some Senators that I would hurt myself with the press if I did not quit attacking the press. I said, "I am not attacking the fair and honest press." If the press is doing that which is harmful to my country, I will attack them, just as I will attack any other enemy. If I were to sit silent and permit things to be done that I thought were wrong, things that I thought I should condemn, I would not be worthy to be here. If I were to do that, in order to have myself complimented by the subsidized press, I would be less than a man.

Mr. President, every Senator here knows that all a Senator has to do to have himself praised continually and have himself boosted and have himself declared to be a

great statesman is to bow to the money power, to the corrupt, criminal interests of the country. If he will do that, they will send statements to the columns of the paper at home telling how he is growing intellectually and as a debater, what a big man he is becoming, what a nice man he is, and before they quit they will say he ought to run for President. If the folks back home read it, they will say, "He is some pumpkin." If he is not a pumpkin, he has a pumpkin head. (Laughter.)

He serves the special interests. He does not serve his country. He is an enemy to truth and is an enemy to justice. Why not tell the truth about every crooked and harmful agency we find here in the Nation's Capital?

Mr. President, none of the remarks made about my speech the other day have touched the facts which I submitted. I am going to give a resume of them before I close.

Mr. President, I have shown that the old constitution of Mexico had a provision in it which declared that none but the Catholic religion would be tolerated in Mexico; all others were excluded; and that the new constitution provides that the people of Mexico are at liberty to join the church of their choice and worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. I have shown that the Roman Catholics of the United States bitterly condemn the new constitution of Mexico and are seeking to have the old one restored.

I repeat, I am opposed to having American boys killed in a war with Mexico for such a purpose. The separation of church and state is a fundamental principle with the people of the United States.

Mr. President, the newspaper report—New York Times—on the proceedings of the Knights of Columbus convention at Philadelphia said:

The religious situation in Mexico as it affects the Catholic Church was considered one of the most important questions before the convention, and had been under consideration since it convened last Monday. A special committee appointed to consider the matter reported to-day, and its report was unanimously adopted.

The Knights of Columbus in annual supreme convention assembled at Philadelphia said in part:

As a pledge of our concern for our fellow Knights of Columbus of Mexico, and of our determination to pursue relentlessly our campaign for the eradication of these evils at our own doorsteps, fomented and approved by the official action of our State Department, we hereby authorize our supreme board of directors to assess our membership to the extent of \$1,000,000.

In another place this same Knights of Columbus resolution says:

The period of "watchful waiting," or any other such procedure is over. We, as American citizens, demand of our Government that this action be taken forthwith.

As to the Knights of Columbus in Mexico, we extend to our brethren our sincere sympathy and fraternal concern. We bid them not to be downcast or dismayed.

Near the end of the resolution passed by the Knights of Columbus at Philadelphia they used this language:

We pledge the support and cooperation of 800,000 men—Mexico who were trying to overthrow the Government that the United States had recognized. They, citizens of the United States, were encouraging the Knights of Columbus in Mexico and promising to aid them in doing away with the present Mexican Government while the Government of And so forth.

They were not pledging their support to this Government. They were condemning this Government and pledging their support to the Knights of Columbus in the United States was, through its constituted authorities, refraining from doing anything that would disturb the peaceful relations between this Government and Mexico.

I have shown that the Roman Catholic bishop of Philadelphia, D. Cardinal Dougherty, sent a message to the Knights of Columbus of the United States shortly after they passed their war-propaganda resolution at Philadelphia, in which he said:

This opportunity is taken to congratulate the Knights of Columbus on the splendid pronouncement concerning the Mexican situation. It seemed to have aroused a dormant element in this country and to have shown it that American Catholics may not with impunity be disregarded and slighted.

I have shown that a judge from New York City, Judge Talley, a Catholic, appeared before the Foreign Relations Committee of the House, saying that he spoke for the Catholic clubs of New York City and for the lay members of the Catholic Church of New York City in his demand that the United States sever all diplomatic relations with Mexico.

I have also shown that the Catholic editor of the Catholic Union Times, of Buffalo, N. Y., on January 13, 1927, predicted that the United States would be in war with Mexico by June 1, this year.

In view of the facts that I have submitted no intelligent and honest American can deny that certain Catholic



influences are at work to get us into war with Mexico, and no man who has any regard for the truth will say that I injected this Roman Catholic religious issue into the discussion of the Mexican situation. The Catholics themselves injected it into the Mexican situation. I have discussed and criticized Protestant American oil kings and others who have oil interests in Mexico for trying to involve us in war with that country, and I have criticized eastern Protestants and others who own Nicaraguan bonds for their efforts to get us into war with Mexico, and neither the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Bruce) nor the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) lifted his voice in protest.

But when I dared to read and discuss in the Senate and give to the country a resolution passed by the Catholic Knights of Columbus of the United States—a resolution that contained an attack upon the Government of the United States, and a demand that the United States Government “forthwith” abandon its peaceful relations with Mexico, which meant war; a resolution which boldly pledged the Knights of Columbus of the United States to a course in Mexico directly opposed to what the Government of the United States had pledged itself to do toward promoting and keeping the peace with Mexico—then it was that the Senator from Maryland and the Senator from Missouri came to the rescue of the war-promoting Roman Catholics of the United States. Am I to understand by their actions on that occasion, and are the Protestant and Hebrew people of America to understand that in this American Senate you may discuss the Jew and the Gentile of the Protestant faith, but you dare not criticize in the American Senate any of the plans and purposes of the Roman Catholic Church?

It would seem that these two Senators would have peace-loving, patriotic American Senators, with emphasis on the word “American”, remain silent even when they found Roman Catholic Knights of Columbus in the United States raising a million dollars to carry on a Mexican war propaganda and seeking to use the Army of the United States to restore the Roman Catholic Church to power in Mexico.

Mr. President, the time for plain talking has arrived. I do not intend that the subsidized press, the bought and owned newspapers of the United States, or any other influence, shall assail and misrepresent me and try to sup-

press the truth that I bring to this body; I do not intend that it shall happen without boldly speaking the truth in a Record that will persevere it for all time.

I have been warned too, about the course I am taking. I have received some very threatening and dangerous letters. My life has been threatened by some of those who do not like my speeches against the course of the Knights of Columbus. I have been warned that they would "bump me off" if they could do it without being discovered. I have had friends to tell me that they would look out for that, and if anything did happen to me, Lord have mercy on some of them; and I indorse the sentiment. If anything happens to me, and I am not permitted to continue to serve my country here as an American Senator and speak the truth as I see it, I want the guilty parties punished. If any power has arisen in America bold and brazen enough to suppress the truth, it ought to be put down.

Mr. Heflin here presented for publication in the record letters endorsing his stand in such number as to consume 9 pages of that large size journal. Shortly thereafter the Robinson resolution came up for vote and there was not a dissenting voice. Catholic and Protestant alike had voted for arbitration and served notice on the White House and Secretary Kellogg that America is not yet ready to fight a Catholic-Wall street war.

Publisher's note—The facts brought forth in this booklet are necessarily presented with as little comment as possible.

The daily press has given you enough material to make these comments of Heflin most interesting.

But subsequent to the dates covered herein Heflin continued his sensational exposure clinching his proof with the most amazing array of evidence ever brought forth by a senator seeking to prove his position right.

For 30 days Heflin fought like a Tiger and every speech was a masterpiece. And he even uncovered some dirty political trading of 1924 campaign so completely as to throw the fear of God into the ranks of corruptionists.

These matters are fully covered in material similar to this book which we have made ready for distribution, and all subsequent data will be faithfully recorded by The New Menace, a weekly newspaper of Aurora, Mo. costing \$1.00 by the year.

Write us for any further information you desire and get the Heflin books.